



Town Recreational Shellfish Crier
March 12, 2021

1. Welcome All New 2021 Recreational Shellfishing Permit Holders!

We are thrilled to welcome you to the amazing group of outdoor enthusiasts and shellfish connoisseurs that make up our recreational shellfishing permit holders. Here below are some quick tips, and please download this [educational handout and map](#) if you did not get one with your 2021 permit. We are very proud of and thankful for the excellent work Jordan Halloran, our 2020-2021 AmeriCorps Cape Cod member, did to create this helpful brochure.

- The Indian Neck recreational area has a CLOSED AREA that goes from the breakwater on the right to the line formed between the candy-striped pole to the green can near the channel. There are pink buoys marking the line as well. We have done extensive stocking of oysters and clams here so that we will provide a bountiful summer of shellfishing. It will open on June 1.
- Three-inch PVC rings for measuring oysters are at each of the three entrances to the Indian Neck recreational shellfishing area and at the Old Pier Road entrance to Chipman's Cove. **Oysters that are less than three inches have not had a chance to spawn yet, so it is important to measure your oysters to make sure they are at least three inches long.** Oysters must be stopped by the ring.
- Chipman's Cove closes on April 30. The rest of South Wellfleet remains open until May 31, seven days a week.
- On June 1, shellfishing may only take place at the Indian Neck recreational area and only on Wednesdays and Sundays.
- Wellfleet does not issue family permits. Permits are individual, meaning one person, one basket, one rake.
- You are allowed to take one 10-quart (wire) basket of shellfish a week. The new week starts on Sundays.

2. Earth Day Beach Clean Up on Saturday, April 17 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., meet at Mayo Beach

Please share widely! Let's honor Earth Day together! The Shellfish Advisory Board will co-sponsor its annual Beach Clean Up with the Town's Recycling Committee, the Friends of the Herring River, the Lieutenant Island Homeowner's Association, Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and others. We are looking for people to help us collect litter and debris at all Wellfleet beaches. We will meet at Mayo Beach at 8 a.m. Thanks to all who can find time to lend a hand!

3. Buy-Back Program from Oyster Farmers Grant Report Due

Through our Revolving Fund for Propagation and a Sea Grant COVID-19 Related Rapid Response Municipal Propagation program, implemented by Woods Hole Sea Grant /Barnstable County Cape Cod Cooperative Extension, the Wellfleet Shellfish Department

was able to put nearly \$20,000 into Wellfleet shellfish farmers' pockets. This represented (including some generous donations) more than 45,000 three-inch, legal-sized oysters which were distributed to the Indian Neck Recreational Shellfishing Only Area. Now it is time for us to report back on the success of this grant. **If you did not get checked on Indian Neck by Shellfish Department staff between December 8 and today, please email Deputy Shellfish Constable Chris Manulla at chris.manulla@wellfleet-ma.gov with the SUBJECT: REC OYSTER HARVEST and tell him your oyster harvests, e.g. full basket, half basket.** Of course, we patrol Indian Neck every day, but when the entire harbor is open to both commercial and recreational shellfishing, we are not always right there when you are coming off with your catch. Thank you for helping us complete our grant report!

4. Wellfleet Shellfish Department Annual Report

We had a very busy year in 2020, even with the COVID-19 pandemic. We captured the highlights in our Annual Report and wanted to share our efforts with you. A condensed version will appear in the 2020 Annual Town Report as well. See [full report here](#). We also post our monthly reports [here](#), although we are behind on 2021, so keep checking back!

Contact us at 508-349-0325 with ideas on how the Shellfish Department can help or improve shellfishing. Thank you!

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